

Application No. 09/438,955

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 26-29 without prejudice or disclaimer.

~~Please amend claims 18 and 23 as follows:~~

1-17. Canceled

18. (Currently amended) A bottom-emitting vertical cavity surface emitting ~~cavity~~ laser, comprising:

a substrate permitting the passage of light therethrough;

a laser stack consisting essentially of a high reflectivity mirror, a low reflectivity mirror, and an active light-amplifying region located between said high and low reflectivity mirrors, said laser stack being provided on said substrate with said low reflectivity mirror adjacent said substrate;

0' a light output port located ~~on one side of said stack in said substrate~~ adjacent said low reflectivity mirror for transmitting light emitted by said active light-amplifying region and constituting an output of said laser; and

an ohmic contact ~~on an opposite side of said stack adjacent provided on~~ said high reflectivity mirror, said ohmic contact being photon transparent for transmitting some of said light emitted by said light-amplifying region that passes through said high reflectivity mirror for monitoring with an external photodetector.

19. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 18, wherein said ohmic contact is made of a photon transparent material.

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20. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 19, wherein said photon transparent material comprises Indium Tin Oxide.

21. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 18, wherein said ohmic contact contains an aperture to pass light therethrough.

22. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 18, wherein said ohmic contact has a thickness between 1 and 100 nm.

0' 23. (Currently amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 18, wherein ~~said laser is a bottom-emitting vertical cavity surface emitting laser having a substrate adjacent the low reflectivity mirror, said output port is provided by a hole in said substrate, and said ohmic contact is on a side of said stack remote from said substrate.~~

24. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 23, wherein said ohmic contact is made of a photon transparent material.

25. (Previously amended) A surface emitting cavity laser as claimed in claim 24, wherein said photon transparent material comprises Indium Tin Oxide.

26-29. Canceled